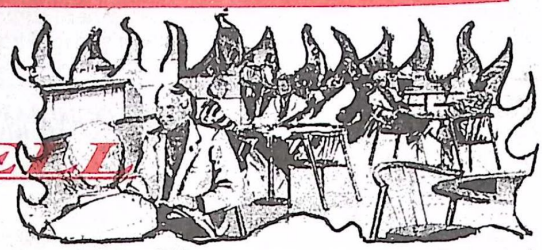
T/SOR/49/1/2

Auld-Reekie's
New TATTOO

Free!! No. 6 /JULY-AUGUST

EDINBURGH'S RADICAL NEWS-SHEET

CITY COUNCIL PROPOSES CONSTRUCTION OF SHOPPING HELL -BENEATH PRINCES STREET!



The City of EdinbVrgh Council have announced plans to spend **£100 million** on the construction of a buried shopping centre beneath the length of Princes St. Their excellent step of beginning to pedestrianise the busy shopping strip *did* seem *too* green to be true, with cars and taxis being banned from travelling East along it. Beneath the green veil of cutting down on car travel to the outskirt shopping centres (most of which we ended up subsidising as well), the Council are greasing up to attract big American and Japanese businesses to the city. **Edinburgh communities already HAVE shopping centres-** many suffering years of neglect and in need of upkeep. The shopping hell will take money out of local areas and actually create travel from out-lying areas INTO the centre. Small business will suffer, unable to compete with huge profiteers and multi-nationals... and this ridiculous subterranean consumer-megopolis will fuel the fire of the Torie's argument that George St. needs a huge car-park *beneath it*. Residents around the Conference Centre are already fighting up-hill battles against the forced placement of multi-story "Sky-parking" in their neighborhoods. Is this the future of Edinburgh? More shops. More cars. More private property where our actions can be controlled and monitored, where shopping is the only acceptable code of conduct. **To really cut down on car-use and avoid being sued when we all get aesthma, the Council needs to spend our money on alternative transit (and projects that better the lives of local people)..... not big business money spinners.**

DEADLY POISONS ARE OFTEN CONCEALED UNDER SWEET HONEY (OVID)

A Report from an Edinburgh Postal Worker

Again the Edinburgh posties are out. This time (or at least at the time of printing) its official time. The Communication Workers Union have called a series of one day national strikes, the 21st of June being the first. Postal workers have long been over-worked and under-paid (and if you don't believe me, you try humping 35lb on your shoulder up and down tenement stairs six mornings a week for a £180.) The present strike campaign is in support for better pay shorter hours a 5 day week and in defence of the 2nd delivery. Royal Mail have promised concessions. But not for nothing! In return for a pay deal, 1.5hrs of the working week, an eventual 5-day week they want to re-structure, as they see fit, every aspect of our employment. They will introduce a unigrade- total job flexability and no demarcation lines. They will introduce team-working....that "modern" management concept which organises the work-force in self contained groups of 6 to 15, controlled by a "team leader", to achieve productivity targets by "continuous improvement" (another "modern" concept for old fashioned faster and harder work.)

POSTAL WORKERS ARE NOT FOOLED SO EASILY!!

Royal Mail's objective is one of cost-cutting, labour-slashing and back-stabbing. If we accept Royal Mail's pre-conditions for agreement to our claim we will have agreed to all the mechanisms for eventual job-losses and part-time working being set in place. After all, Royal Mail's no redundancy guarantee ends in the year 2000 and strangely enough that's the time-table for the installation of a new generation of computerised automated technology in the sorting offices. Nor have Royal Mail recented one iota on the streaming of mail for the 2nd delivery and without that, the 2nd delivery is doomed. As will be the full time jobs of the delivery posties!

There is a lot more to this dispute than Royal Mail would lead everyone to believe!!

Uncertain truce in the battle of pressmennan woods

After months of high-profile resistance by locals, East Lothian ancient native oakwood Pressmennan (Welsch for "wood of the stones") has been saved from the hungry chain-saws of greedy timber company A.J. Scott and the hypocritical Forestry Authority. After a demo June 3rd on the Forestry Authority's front steps, the East Lothian Council took the unprecedented step of placing a T.P.O. (Tree Preservation Order) on every single tree of the woodland. This is a very welcome U-turn, as Council officials originally had written advice on the matter making a bogus claim that the forest had ALREADY been clear-cut 150 years ago!! Amazingly fast-growing oaks in Pressmennan I suppose?

thin veneer exposed

The struggle to save Pressmennan Woods has exposed only too clearly the vested interests of the bodies most people assume exist to preserve nature. For starters, DAVID BILLS is in charge of the Forestry Authority= the man who clear-felled most of Tasmania's native wood and jailed protestor DAVID BELLAMY in the process. His close ties with the Lumber (read "Dead Trees") Industry no doubt got him his "post".

After August 1st the F.A. doesn't even need to consult local authorites to cut down woodlands like Pressmennan, as part of "cost-CUTTING measures".

uncertain future

The TPO keeps all hands off Pressmennan unless the Council gives the plan permission. The Council even look likely to order a compulsory purchase from the farmer- who is refusing to sell it for less than £100,000, because he wants to buy a kitchen extension. Apparantly the good folk at Talamh have gone so far as to offer their services for free to build the bloody kitchen if it saves the native growth.

positive growth

The E. Lothian Council is actively searching for other important woods to TPO before Aug. 1st. Meanwhile activists are setting up a Community Woodland Trust to identify and look after local woods (hopefully encouraging even further community involvement and the expansion of green space.) **Keen eco-warriors are setting up an emergency network for active defense of threatened Scottish woodlands. Scoland has the most to lose because she has lost the most only 1% still stands and it is under threat by greed and hypocrisy. If interested call: 01368 850 630.**

HOT SPOTS

DO YOU WANT THE GOOD NEWS OR THE BAD NEWS?

Torness NUCLEAR Power Station and Rosyth Dockyard ARE releasing nuclear waste into the environment. But the government says that the radioactive waste is within internationally recommended limits. I'll certainly sleep easier.

AUSTRALIAN NUCLEAR WASTE ARRIVES IN SCOTLAND

The first of many shipments of spent highly enriched Uranium rods landed **July 16th** at Scrabster Harbour, Caithness to be re-processed at Dounreay. This despite continual reports of leaks and radiation contamination. When reprocessed the nuclear waste gains 800% more volume and if a international resolution against nuclear transport were passed while we had it, **we'd be stuck with it.**

FASLANE PEACE CAMP TURNS 14.. WITH 46 ARRESTS

An all-weekend celebration/action saw mass canoeing and swimming near the Trident Nuclear Submarine Base and also a wee bit of **quick-cuffing and arresting**, performed by uninvited party-crashers. The real gate-crashers however were the protestors and around 20 got nicked on Sat. for doing just that. On Mon. a nuclear convoy was arrested for 20 minutes by concerned citizens who were subsequently arrested by these very same dark-clad party-poopers. On August 1st, the permanent residents of the camp will call it quits, and the site will remain as a peace garden kept up by local residents.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY AXES CENTRE FOR HUMAN ECOLOGY

As if putting up with scientific racists wasn't enough, Edinburgh University have finally (it seems) won their battle to close the controversial Centre for Human Ecology. After 21 years of daring to criticise the vested interests of the status quo and taking radical stances on environmental and social issues, it's life inside the U is over. After public meetings, it seems there is interest in setting up a practical independant centre to investigate sustainability for Scotland free from the tangled web of the U. For more info: 0131 650 3470.

A GREEN ADOLF?! *SMELLS LIKE A BROWN MOVEMENT!*

A book review of ECO-FASCISM: Lessons from the German Experience by Janet Biehl & Peter Staudenmaier; AK Press

This book consists of two essays that examine German fascism and its close affiliation to ecological concepts that, if uttered today, would be considered very progressive. It poses the question of whether it is dangerous to assume that all things **"green"** are good. It starts off with a background of both German agrarian nationalism and the founding of "ecology". People like zoologist Ernst Haeckel (who first coined the term ecology) honed the relatively new concept of Social Darwinism into a scientific racism. From Arndt, Riehl, Klages, and Heidegger, to the more sinister Darre (proclaimed as the *"Father of the Greens"* despite being Nazi Minister of Agriculture and likening Jews to "weeds") and Rudolf Hess (keen enthusiast of homeopathic medicine)...all used a holistic, organic world view of "natural law" to justify the most authoritarian and anti-semetic social views and the establishment of the Nazi Party.

The turn of the century brought with it urbanization, industrialization, and the destruction of a previous way of life. The "back to the land" movement in Germany was a rejection of the 20th century, and manifested itself in the "Youth Movement".. right-wing hippies who had "gatherings" in the country and meshed Eastern and mystical anti-reason philosophies. Recognising the environmental calamity, but rejecting all political action in favour of the improvement of the individual, the movement was easily absorbed by the Nazis "Blood and Soil" stance.

The 2nd essay takes us into the present explaining how romantic notions of the soil have fueled the far right. Linking facism with mainstream concerns like over-population and immigration, she lists far-right connections and beliefs in seemingly benevolant groups. Of particular interest is founder of bio-dynamics Rudolph Steiner, whose racist, hierarchical (and ridiculous) theories include "root races" that evolved sequentially, each superceding the previous in self-consciousness. Below whites (who are of course at the top) are not only races that once dwelled in Atlantis but the Blacks who must live in Africa because without the hot sunlight which cooks them from the inside they will die out. Hmm.

Another prominent figure is Rudolf Barho, former Communist, Green Party member, and espouser of "New Age" ecological nationalism. He feels that different peoples have different "essences" and therefor must remain in their homelands. He also calls for us to look to the positive of the Nazi movement, welcoming a new "Green Adolf' (his words) who will rescue us from global disaster.

Both authors go to great lengths to clarify that their intent is not to villify the Ecological movement, but to point out strains of its history and philosophy that can lend itself to the most inhumane of practices. Being Social Ecologists of the Libertarian Left tradition, they reject all misanthropic, anti-humanist views and eco-mysticism as misleading. With this book they point out that to live in an ecologically sustainable but repressive society is no option....**rather we need to create emancipatory ecological politics.** A good read for all those interested in the past or future of the planet.

CARS V DINOSAURS

Dinosaurs existed over 200 million years ago.

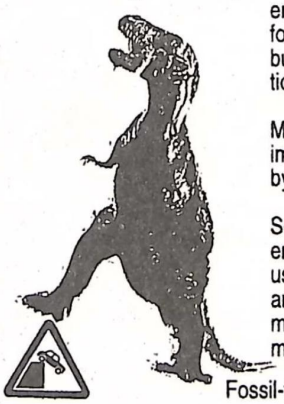
When dinosaurs walked the earth, tiny mammals scurried about at their feet.

We know about dinosaurs because of their fossilized bones and imprints preserved in the earth.

When first discovered, some thought that dinosaur bones were from dragons...while many refused to believe their authenticity at all.

Dinosaurs, like the Tyranosaurus Rex, despite thier great size and power became extinct for reasons yet unknown.

Dinosaurs are extinct.



Cars were invented 100 years ago.

Mammals, including people, scurry across roads trying not to get hit by a car.

Fossilized ferns from the dinosaurs' era compose non-renewable fossi fuels..which car motors burn through internal combustion.

Many people cannot even imagine a world undominated by car-use and car-traffic.

Scientists warn that emissions from rampant car use leads to ozone depletion and green-house gases that make our habitat more and more unlivable.

Fossil-fuel driven cars soon will be.

"SPOTLIGHT" CAST ON DSS OFFICE

Claimants occuppied part of EdinbVrgh's main Social Security office on 18 June in opposition to the Job Seekers' Allowance and the government's "benefit fraud" campaign. Demonstrators took over the staff entrance hall at Castle Terrace DSS, plastered posters everywhere, and distributed leaflets to benefit workers.

The action followed a demo outside nearby High Riggs benefit office where claimants were joined by several postal workers, illustrating that the JSA is an attack on waged workers too, undermining everyone's wages and conditions.

For more info, contact the Edinburgh Claimants: 332 7547

John Gotip Hangs in Balance as

he and supporters struggle against his forced deportation to oppressive Nigeria. For info: John Gotip Support Group, c/o Africa Centre, 45 Blackfriars St, EH1 1NB

THE MEDICAL MOUSE

HEADACHES PART 2

The NERVOUS / TENSION Headache

If you often suffer this type of headache it's well worth looking at ways of relaxation to get those stress levels down. In the meantime, here's a few simple remedies:

HERBAL TEAS.....Limeflower tea is well-known in aiding inflamed and swollen blood vessels in the head to relax. To enhance its actions, take whilst simultaneously having a foot bath as hot as you can bear and applying an icy cloth to the nape of the neck. Other teas to try are Chamomile, Peppermint and Lavender. **Preparation:**

Limeflower 2tsp of flowers
Peppermint 2tsp of leaves
Lavender 2tsp of flowering tops
Chamomile 2tsp of flowers.....Steep for 10 min' in hot water and drain. You can of course use herbal teabags.

ESSENTIAL OILS.....Mix up any of the following oils and massage into temples and around sore area. Lavender, Wintergreen, Chamomile, Peppermint and Rosemary.

Preparation: Mix 10 drops of the essential oil with 10 ml of a base oil eg. Sunflower, Soya, Wheatgerm or Grapeseed.

About The House Remedies.....Olbas Oil, Tiger Balm or a little freshly squeezed Lemon juice can all be massaged into the temples.

Note: Avoid high doses of any herbs / essential oils during pregnancy and avoid Rosemary altogether.

Treating Children...Treat as with the migrane headache (issue no. 5). Lime Flower or Chamomile tea and a cold compress of Witch Hazel. Encourage the child to lie down in a dark room.

GET INVOLVED!!! all addresses EDINBURGH unless noted

AK PRESS (distro/publisher) POBox 12766, EH8 9VE
AUTONOMOUS CENTRE of EDINBURGH / EDINBURGH CLAIMANTS mail:c/o Peace & Justice Centre, St. John's, Princes St. ph: 332 7547.
ANTI-FASCIST ACTION POBox 421, EH11 1QD.
CITY OF PUNK (organize revolting festival) c/o POBox 421, Eh11 1QD
CLASS WAR (magazine) mail: POBox 1021, EH8 9PW.
COUNTER INFORMATION (global news) mail: c/o Transmission, 28 King St, GLASGOW, G1 5PQ.
CRITICAL MASS takes off from the Mound last Fri. of every month at 5:30pm
EARTH FIRST! EDINBURGH mail: c/o Peace & Justice Centre, St. John's, Princes St.;
EDINBURGH HUNT SABS (go out on Sat.s & Wed.s) mail: POBox 002, Glenrothes, KY61 2EZ. ph: 447 4762.
EDINBURGH VEGANS c/o Scottish Action for Animals, POBox 14006, EH9 1VE.
FAHRENHEIT 451 (radical book store) Virginia Galleries, GLASGOW. Ph: 0141 226 5066.
FASLANE PEACE CAMP mail Shandon, Helenburgh, Dunbartonshire G84. ph: 014 36820901.
FRIENDS of the EARTH, SCOTLAND Bonnington Mill, 72 Newhaven Rd, EH6 5QG. ph: 554 9977.
KINNING PARK OCCUPIED COMMUNITY CENTRE PH* 0141 427 9775.
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LOW INCOME PEOPLES' FOOD INITIATIVE (cheap & free food collective) 667 4299 or 668 4443.
McLIBEL SUPPORT CAMPAIGN- 5 Caledonian Rd, LONDON NI.
RAM 74 (Anti-M74 motorway) 0141 424 1797.
SCOTTISH ANTI-BLOODSPORTS FEDERATION 39 Dalmally St, GLASGOW, G20 6RY.
SCOTTISH FEDERATION of ANARCHISTS (Scotland-wide activities) mail: SFA, Box 1008, GLASGOW, G42 8AA. ph/fx: 0141 226 5066.
SOCIAL ECOLOGY, SCOTLAND (intl. network) mail: c/o M. Norrish, (2F2) 323 Leith Walk.
SOLIDARITY CENTRE (Clydside's resource centre) 3 Royal Exchange Court, 85-87 Queen St, GLASGOW, G1 3PA. ph/fx: 0141 226 5066.
WORD POWER (Political bookstore) 43 West Nicholson St, Ph: 662 9112
ECHOES of the SPANISH CIVIL WAR (1936-1996) event on 18,19,20 July in Glasgow to commemorate 60th anniversary. For info: 0141 429 7059.